

MAR 26 2008
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PATENT, TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT
AND UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW
AND RELATED LITIGATION

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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

To: Examiner Giovanna B. Colan
Group Unit No. 2162
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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From: Thomas W. Humphrey

Re: Our File: IBM-265
US Application Serial No. 10/758,486
Filed January 15, 2004
GENERATING STATISTICS ON
TEXT PATTERN MATCHING
PREDICATES FOR ACCESS
PLANNING
Abdo Esmail Abdo et al.
Client Reference: ROC920030216US1

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MESSAGE/COMMENTS

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PATENT
ATTY. DOCKET NO. IBM/265

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Abdo Esmail Abdo et al. Art Unit: 2162
Serial No. : 10/758,486 Examiner: Giovanna B. Colan
Filed : January 15, 2004
For : GENERATING STATISTICS ON TEXT PATTERN MATCHING
PREDICATES FOR ACCESS PLANNING

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

*Via Facsimile*AMENDMENT AFTER FILING APPEAL BRIEF

This paper is in response to the telephone conference held with Examiner Colan on
March 20, 2008.

Claim amendments begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.

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/Thomas W. Humphrey/
Thomas W. Humphrey
Reg. No. 34,353

March 26, 2008
Date

MAR 26 2008

10/758,486

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In the Claims

1. (currently amended) A method for generating a statistic for a pattern matching predicate on an attribute of a relation, to be used in optimizing execution of a query directed to one or more attributes of said relation, comprising

providing a relational database including a relation having a plurality of tuples including values for a plurality of attributes;

providing a data storage structure storing character statistics on said attribute, comprising a first structure storing, for each of a plurality of character positions, frequently occurring characters in that character position, and statistics for each frequently occurring character,

retrieving said statistics in response to said pattern matching predicate based upon the character positions of characters in said pattern matching predicate, and

generating said statistic based upon said retrieved character statistics.

2. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said data storage structure further stores a count of a number of occurrences of a frequently occurring character.

3. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said data storage structure further comprises a second structure storing frequently occurring characters that are subsequent to the frequently occurring characters stored in said first structure.

MAR 26 2008

10/758,486

IBM/265

4. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein said second data storage structure further stores a probability of occurrence of a frequently occurring subsequent character.
5. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein generating said statistic based upon said retrieved character statistics comprises estimating a statistic for a desired character and desired character position, in the event said statistic is not stored in said first structure.
6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein said estimating comprises accumulating statistics for said desired character position, for characters other than said desired character, and calculating average frequency of occurrence of characters that do not have statistics stored in said first structure.
7. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said first structure is a table.
8. (original) The method of claim 1 wherein said first structure comprises a linked list.
9. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein said second structure comprises a table.
10. (original) The method of claim 3 wherein said second structure comprises a linked list.
- 11 - 23. Cancelled

MAR 26 2008

10/758,486

IBM/265

Remarks

Claim 1 has been amended as discussed with the Examiner to clearly recite the nature of the invention as statutory subject matter. Claims 11 through 23 are being deleted for pursuit in a divisional application. Applicant submits that in view of this amendment and the telephone conference with the Examiner, all claims are allowable and requests early transmission of a Notice of Allowability.

If any petition for extension of time is necessary to accompany this communication, please consider this paper a petition for such an extension of time, and apply the appropriate extension of time fee to Deposit Account 23-3000. If any other charges or credits are necessary to complete this communication, please apply them to Deposit Account 23-3000.

Respectfully submitted,

/Thomas W. Humphrey/

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